

1. [Amended] An article useful for edge sharpening comprising a metal body having at least one honing surface coated with a ceramic created in an electrolytic bath, said honing surface characterized by a surface finish of Ra 120 to Ra 10.
2. An article of claim 1 having a handle.
3. An article of claim 1 wherein said metal body is aluminum.
5. An article of claim 1 wherein at least one honing surface is substantially flat.
6. An article of claim 1 wherein at least one honing surface is curved.
7. An article of claim 1 having a V groove therein.
8. An article of claim 1 having at least one edge treated in said electrolytic bath to concentrate current thereon while said ceramic coating is created on said surface.
9. An article of claim 1 including at least one abrading surface.
10. An article of claim 9 wherein said abrading surface is an abrasive strip affixed to a recess in said article.
11. An article of claim 10 wherein said abrading surface comprises silicon carbide, diamond or aluminum oxide.
12. An article of claim 1 having a triangular profile.
13. An article of claim 7 having a triangular profile.
14. An article of claim 12 having at least one V groove.
15. An article of claim 12 having at least one abrading surface.
16. [Amended] An article of claim 15 wherein said abrading [area] surface is affixed to a recess in the surface of said article.
17. [Amended] An article of claim 15 wherein said abrading [area] surface comprises silicon carbide, diamond, or aluminum oxide.
18. An elongated sharpening bar comprising a generally rectangular-shaped metal body having attached thereto at least one abrasive strip, the balance of said bar being substantially covered with a ceramic coating created in an electrolytic bath.
19. Article of claim 8 wherein said edge is rounded.

20. Method of making a sharpening device having at least one edge comprising placing a metal incipient sharpening device as an electrode in an electrolytic bath and imposing a modified shaped wave alternating current in said bath.
21. Method of claim 20 wherein said modified shaped wave alternating current creates a plasma discharge within said bath, resulting in microarc oxidation on the surface of said incipient sharpening device.
22. Method of making a sharpening device comprising forming a hard coating on an incipient sharpening device by (i) immersing the incipient sharpening device in an electrolytic bath comprising a passivating agent and an electrolytic agent, and (ii) passing a modified shaped-wave alternating electric current from a source of 250 to 800 volts through the surface of the incipient sharpening device, wherein the modified shaped-wave electric current rises from zero to its maximum height and falls to below 40% of its maximum height within less than a quarter of a full alternating cycle thereby causing dielectric breakdown and the formation of a ceramic coating on the surface of said incipient sharpening device, and removing the completed sharpening device from the electrolytic bath.
23. An edge sharpening device comprising an elongated metal body having a ceramic surface on at least two contour portions selected from flat, rounded edge, and tapered.
24. An edge sharpening device of claim 23 wherein said metal body is aluminum.
25. [Amended] An edge sharpening device of claim 23 including at least one of a V groove and an abrasive strip.

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15. An article of claim 12 having at least one abrading surface.
16. [Amended] An article of claim 15 wherein said abrading surface is affixed to a recess in the surface of said article.
17. [Amended] An article of claim 15 wherein said abrading surface comprises silicon carbide, diamond, or aluminum oxide.
18. An elongated sharpening bar comprising a generally rectangular-shaped metal body having attached thereto at least one abrasive strip, the balance of said bar being substantially covered with a ceramic coating created in an electrolytic bath.
19. Article of claim 8 wherein said edge is rounded.
20. Method of making a sharpening device having at least one edge comprising placing a metal incipient sharpening device as an electrode in an electrolytic bath and imposing a modified shaped wave alternating current in said bath.

21. Method of claim 20 wherein said modified shaped wave alternating current creates a plasma discharge within said bath, resulting in microarc oxidation on the surface of said incipient sharpening device.
22. Method of making a sharpening device comprising forming a hard coating on an incipient sharpening device by (i) immersing the incipient sharpening device in an electrolytic bath comprising a passivating agent and an electrolytic agent, and (ii) passing a modified shaped-wave alternating electric current from a source of 250 to 800 volts through the surface of the incipient sharpening device, wherein the modified shaped-wave electric current rises from zero to its maximum height and falls to below 40% of its maximum height within less than a quarter of a full alternating cycle thereby causing dielectric breakdown and the formation of a ceramic coating on the surface of said incipient sharpening device, and removing the completed sharpening device from the electrolytic bath.
23. An edge sharpening device comprising an elongated metal body having a ceramic surface on at least two contour portions selected from flat, rounded edge, and tapered.
24. An edge sharpening device of claim 23 wherein said metal body is aluminum.
25. [Amended] An edge sharpening device of claim 23 including at least one of a V groove and an abrasive strip.